

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4093

E.O. 11652: 12-31-80

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO/EURO TRAINING

SUMMARY: IN SUPPORTING US RATIONALIZATION/SPECILIZATION EFFORTS IN NATO, MISSION PROPOSES DEVELOPMENT OF A US PROPOSAL ON NATO TRAINING WHICH WOULD LEAD TO ESTABLISHMENT OF NATO TRAINING CENTERS AT SUITABLE LOCATIONS IN THE US AND POSSIBLY IN EUROPE AS WELL. THESE TRAINING CENTERS WOULD BE OPERATED ON A JOINT NATO BASIS WITH ALLIES PROVIDING A PROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF INSTRUCTORS AND HAVING A VOICE IN POLICY. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON COMMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. SUBJECT WAS RAISED IN A RECENT MEETING BETWEEN USNATO'S DEPUTY DEFENSE ADVISOR (BGEN BOWMAN) AND THE FRG DEFENSE ADVISOR (BGEN SCHUNEMANN). REFLECTING ON THE NATO/EURO TRAINING CONFERENCE HELD IN ANKARA MAY 21-23, 1974, SCHUNEMANN COMMENTED THAT NATO TRAINING HELD IN THE US WAS NOT SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED AND THAT, IN FACT, THE THRUST OF THE CONFERENCE WAS TO PROVIDE FOR MORE NATO COMMON TRAINING IN EUROPE, INCLUDING BOTH BASIC HELICOPTER AND UNDER-GRADUATE JET PILOT TRAINING. SCHUNEMANN IS KNOWLEDGEABLE ON THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT AND MAINTAINS CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE NATO/EURO TRAINING GROUP SECRETARIAT AT MOD BONN. HIS VIES MORE OR LESS CONFIRM THE DRAFT OF THE REPORTS ON THE ANKARA CONFERENCE PRODUCED BY THE JOINT SERVICES, ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE AND FINANCIAL SUB-GROUPS.

MISSION OBTAINED COPIES OF THESE REPORTS FROM THE IMS.

2. MISSION NOTES THAT THE ANKARA CONFERENCE WAS THE FIRST AT WHICH AN OSD REP ATTENDED AND THAT A COORDINATED US APPROACH TO FUTURE NATO/EURO TRAINING IS IN THE WORKS, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO THE BIENNIAL CONFERENCES OF THE NATO/EURO TRAINING GROUP. HOWEVER, WE FEEL THAT THE WORK OF THIS TRAINING GROUP SHOULD BE GIVEN GREATER VISIBILITY SUCH THAT US OBJECTIVES IN NATO TRAINING WILL BE ADVANCED AT A HIGH ENOUGH LEVEL TO RECEIVE PROPER ATTENTION BY OUR ALLIES. THE VARIOUS DELEGATIONS TO THE NATO/EURO TRAINING GROUP MEETINGS COME ARMED WITH NATIONAL POSITIONS WHICH HAVE HAD THE EFFECT OF LIMITING GENERAL PROGRESS AND/OR AGREEMENT IN DEVELOPING CENTRALIZED INTERNATIONAL TRAINING. MISSION MAY BE ABLE TO INFLUENCE THESE NATIONAL POSITIONS IF THE SUBJECT WERE AIRED THERE AT NATO HEADQUARTERS.

3. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT THE US PREPARE FOR AN INITIATIVE IN THE DPC WITH EMPHASIS AS SET FORTH BELOW:

A. COMMON NATO TRAINING IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION TO WHICH MINISTERS HAVE ATTACHED CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE.

B. THE EWG IS CONSIDERING A NATO RATIONALIZATION POTENTIAL STUDY PREPARED IN WASHINGTON, IN WHICH COMMON TRAINING PLAYS A LARGE PART, ESPECIALLY FOR HELO AND JET PILOTS. ACCORDING TO THE STUDY, NATO MIGHT SAVE 500 MILLION DOLLARS OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD BY CONDUCTING PILOT TRAINING IN THE US.

C. CHANNELING MORE ALLIED TRAINING TO THE US WOULD HELP COMPENSATE FOR THE STATIONING OF US TROOPS IN EUROPE. IN THIS REGARD, WE SEE BURDENSARING AS A MAJOR FACTOR. IN EFFECT, MILITARY PERSONNEL OF ALLIES UNDERGOING TRAINING IN US WOULD HELP TO COUNTERACT THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS EFFECTS OF US MILITARY PERSONNEL STATIONED IN EUROPE.

D. THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS FOR NATO THROUGH
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INCREASED COMMON TRAINING, PARTICULARLY IN THOSE AREAS WHERE THE US IS BEST QUALIFIED TO CONDUCT SUCH TRAINING. SOME NATO TRAINING CENTERS COULD BE LOCATED IN EUROPE IN AREAS WHERE PARTICULAR QUALIFICATION EXISTS AMONG THE ALLIES.

5. IN DEVELOPING THIS APPROACH, MISSION CONSIDERS THAT NATO TRAINING, ESPECIALLY IF CONDUCTED IN THE US, WOULD HAVE TO BECOME INSTITUTIONALIZED SO AS TO PROTECT ALLIED INTERESTS INsofar AS POSSIBLE. TO THIS END, THROUGH COORDINATION WITH THE INTERSERVICE TRAINING REVIEW PROGRAM (ITRP), A SURVEY SHOULD BE MADE OF US TRAINING FACILITIES OF ALL THREE SERVICES WHERE EXTENSIVE NATO TRAINING MIGHT TAKE PLACE. THEN, IN TAILORING OUR APPROACH TO NATO, WE SHOULD SELECT THOSE FACILITIES (SUCH AS FOR PILOT TRAINING) WHERE NATO TRAINING

CENTERS MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED. THESE CENTERS WOULD INCORPORATE A PROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF ALLIED INSTRUCTORS, AS WELL AS US, AND WOULD ALLOW PARTICIPATING NATO NATIONS TO HAVE A VOICE IN POLICY. THIS TRAINING WOULD BE IN A DIFFERENT CATEGORY THAN THAT PROVIDED UNDER MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND WOULD, IN FACT, BE A JOINT EFFORT UTILIZING US FACILITIES TO NATO'S COMMON BENEFIT. ALTHOUGH PROBABLY LIMITED AT FIRST TO A FEW NATIONS, THIS PROGRAM MIGHT WELL EXPAND TO INCLUDE MOST NATO NATIONS.

6. TAKING THE EXAMPLE OF PILOT TRAINING, MISSION NOTES THAT, ACCORDING TO THE NATO RATIONALIZATION POTENTIAL STUDY, DENMARK, FRG AND NORWAY NOW TRAIN JET PILOTS IN THE US WITH THE NETHERLANDS TO FOLLOW SUIT IN 1975. IN ADDITION, DENMARK AND NORWAY SEND BASIC HELICOPTER PILOT TRAINEES TO THE US. IF THE US DOES NOT MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF THE PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN THIS MESSAGE, THERE IS SOME DANGER THAT EUROPEAN ALLIES WILL SET UP THEIR OWN CENTERS IN EUROPE FOR BOTH TYPES OF PILOT TRAINING.

7. MISSION FEELS THAT A PLAN ALONG THE LINES DESCRIBED ABOVE MIGHT ENABLE THE US TO MAKE BETTER PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVES TOWARD PLAYING A LARGER ROLE IN NATO TRAINING AND IN FURTHERING THIS ASPECT OF RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON COMMENTS.
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